

Message Text

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44

ACTION AF-08

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 INT-05 SIL-01 LAB-04 HEW-06 OPR-02

AID-05 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-02 INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00

NSC-05 PA-02 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-15 /088 W

----- 084392

R 021100Z SEP 76

FM AMCONSUL JOHANNESBURG

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 5058

INFO AMCONSUL CAPE TOWN

AMCONSUL DURBAN

AMEMBASSY PRETORIA

UNCLAS JOHANNESBURG 1505

E.O. 1165: N/A

TAGS ELAB, SF

SUBJECT: MINE WORKERS DISPUTE SETTLED

REF: JOHANNESBURG 1305

1. AGREEMENT HAS BEEN REACHED BETWEEN MINE WORKERS UNION AND CHAMBER OF MINES ON FIVE-DAY WEEK WHICH NEARLY RESULTED IN WORK STOPPAGE ON MINES SEVERAL WEEKS AGO (REFTEL). COMPROMISE SETTLEMENT ANNOUNCED SEPTEMBER 1 PROVIDES FOR AN ELEVEN-SHIFT FORTNIGHT ARRANGEMENT. IN OTHER WORDS, MINERS WILL WORK ONE FIVE-DAY WEEK, FOLLOWED BY A SIX-DAY WEEK. MINE WORKERS UNION HAS AGREED TO CHANGES IN WORK PRACTICES WHICH WILL PERMIT CHAMBER TO EMPLOY BLACKS IN SOME JOBS FORMERLY PERFORMED BY WHITES AND CHAMBER HAS AGREED TO INCREASE IN SOME FRINGE BENEFITS (UNSPECIFIED). ELEVEN-SHIFT ARRANGEMENT WILL NOT RPT NOT GO INTO EFFECT UNTIL APRIL 1977.

2. COMMENT: SETTLEMENT OF DISPUTE APPARENTLY ELIMINATES POSSIBILITY OF MINE STRIKE, BUT IS UNCLASSIFIED

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UNLIKELY TO FULLY SATISFY MINE WORKERS,

PARTICULARLY SINCE THEY WERE UNABLE TO NEGOTIATE
A STRAIGHT FIVE-DAY WEEK BUT WERE FORCED TO GIVE
UP POSITIONS TO BLACKS. THIS LIKELY THEREFORE TO
LEAVE THEM UNHAPPY AND MAY WELL WEAKEN POSITION
OF MINE WORKERS LEADERS, ESPECIALLY ARRIE PAULUS,
WHO AGREED TO NEW ARRANGEMENT.
JOHNSON

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NNN

Message Attributes

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Decaption Note:
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Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: n/a
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Disposition Comment:
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Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
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